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## Zion's Herald.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1888.

## STRANGE COUNSEL.

It is with sincere diffidence that we feel constrained to note the closing paragraphs of Dr. Townsend's chapter in Miss Willard's book, just published, on "Woman in the Pulpit." Dr. Townsend has so long been our teacher, and we have so long heard and read him with such enthusiastic admiration, that, most assuredly, we hesitate to become his critic. We are amazed, however, at what has here, and very unwisely, we think, escaped from his pen and become a public indictment against the church. Particularly when it is remembered that he is an honored instructor in our School of Theology in Boston University, will his words seem strange and startling as counsel. This is what he advises the women of Methodism to do, and this is the language in which he says it:—

"These noble women should knock only once more at the doors of the Methodist General Conference, and if their signals and entreaties are again uncivilly disregarded, they should never knock again; they should call together some of the noblest Christian women of the land, and in solemn convocation, by the laying on of hands and by prayer, they should set apart for pulpit and parish work those who trust that they are inwardly moved by the Holy Ghost to take upon themselves the office of the ministry in the church of Christ, to serve God for the promoting of His glory and the edifying of His people."

We ask the reader to calmly peruse this significance. The most august body in our church, the General Conference, is charged with treating "uncivilly" the "entreaties" of women for ordination. We dismiss the astounding statement with only this word of comment—that it never should have been written, and, if written, should never have been given to type. It is a most unjust reflection upon the General Conference. That body has always shown a chivalric and enthusiastic appreciation of our "elect women." Our distinguished friend loses his judicial balance. The action of the General Conference was a matter of conscience, tempered by the most tender and grateful appreciation of women.

What is the counsel proffered by our teacher to the women of our Methodism? Nothing less than a schism in the church if the *intensity* is repeated. Ecclesiastical revolution in our Methodist family is to be inaugurated by our sisterhood in the churches if this *intensity* is again the response to their entreaties. Such words of counsel are heated and injudicious. A menace should never be made to an individual, or a body, who hesitates from taking desired action only from conscientious convictions. Ah! this is not our eminent friend in the hour of calm reflection, but in the ardor of a fiery impulse when desire has arrogated the throne of reason. It is because we believe his strange words should be thus interpreted that we are constrained to pen this kindly word of dissent and explanation.

## DEACONESSES.

We doubt if any act of legislation of this General Conference has so much of practical good in it for the church as the institution of a class of workers to be known as "deaconesses." For an account of the same, and for a description of the peculiar mission of these women, our readers may turn to the 16th day of our excellently abridged report of proceedings of the session. We are particularly gratified at this open door of enlarged usefulness for our women, for several reasons.

It shows unequivocally the appreciation of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the Christian ministry of women, and is a direct refutation of the inference from action previously taken that this representative body would in any way limit women in any Christian labor which they are specially qualified to perform. The work outlined for the deaconesses is eminently Christlike. Women are best fitted for such tender, sympathetic and helpful ministry. Their mission will become to our church work what the tint and fragrance are to the rose.

But, most and best, the work which these consecrated women will do, will be an inestimable adjunct and relief to the pastorate. In our cities, especially, a constant and increasing demand is made upon the overworked pastor to render just the service which it is contemplated that the deaconess shall do.

With this efficient and subordinate ally, therefore, the clergy will be relieved, to do better the "one thing" to which they are specially called—to herald publicly the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to the lost.

We are confident that this is another providential indication to the church to enlarge the sphere of its usefulness, and that no one can predict whereunto it shall grow in gracious and helpful serviceableness.

## EXTENSION OF THE TIME LIMIT.

It has been advanced from three to five years, and with so little opposition and apprehension, that we can hardly believe it possible. And yet we remember how easily great changes are made when the time is ripe for such change. This was foreshadowed in the quadrennial Address of the Bishops, to which we listened with such unqualified admiration. When our general superintendents say to the church, as the result of their comprehensive observation, that they have no apprehension of danger to the denomination from such a change, why should the individual member fear? This was the great word which made such extension possible:—

"We do not suppose that any disaster would come to the church in consequence, if properly guarded provision were made for extending the term to four, or even five, years in cases manifestly exceptional. We are ready to welcome any feasible plan for improving the itinerancy by increasing its adaptability to the ever-varying needs of the churches, and for reducing its hardships to the minimum; but we are not ready for the removal of the limit, or the abandonment of the system."

We are enthusiastically optimistic in regard to our Methodism. We believe it has been led of God in the formation of its polity, and we believe it will be led to the expansion of that polity as the changing demands of these crucial and peculiar times require. Methodism is greater than the arbitrary limit of the pastorate. The latter is only an incident. Methodism is the life of God in the soul. "Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?" We are to discriminate clearly between the essential and the incidental, the life and the raiment. We remember a pleasant chat with one of the most intelligent fathers in our ministry, when he told us the story of the advance of the time limit from two to three years. He was a delegate to the General Conference when the time was thus extended. He said the feeling of opposition was intense and conscientious. The fathers in the ministry pleaded with fearful entreaty not to extend the time, and sincerely predicted that such change would be ruinous to Methodism. But the time was extended, and the old church moved on without the slightest harm or wrench in its economy.

So will it be with this change. The calamity predicted is purely visionary. The best of Methodism is in its future, and this change will be one of the most helpful means to an end.

## THE ELECTION OF BISHOPS.

In many respects the supreme hour in the present General Conference was reached last week in the vote for the officers of the church, especially her bishops. It is not wonderful to note the great interest in the event felt in all portions of the denomination. Ministers and laymen from all parts of the country were drawn to New York on the appointed day. The immense theatre was crowded to its utmost capacity, and policemen had to be called in to keep the aisles and doorways open. Hundreds were in the halls unable to find access to any portion of the audience-room. The bishops of our church have so wide an influence, and stand so prominently, as her representatives, before the whole community, that it would be surprising if the ministry and membership did not feel a deep interest, amounting at times to anxiety, in reference to the new incumbents of this exalted and life-long office. The providence of God has thus far guided and defended the church in her choice of her chief ministers, so that she has never suffered grief or shame in their administration of the office. There will be some surprises and some disappointments in the late election, but on the whole the church generally will feel that a judicious selection has been made, and that the great interests of the communion can be safely entrusted in the new hands.

Comparisons are made in these days between the former and the present times. Some of the earlier bishops shrunk from the office with unbecoming humility, and were often elected by nearly unanimous votes. It is easy to account for the different conditions of things without intimating a spiritual degeneracy in the ministry. In the day of limited numbers and the general lack of a liberal education among the itinerant preachers, the conspicuous men were few, and readily and everywhere recognized; but now in the multiplication of pastors and the richer opportunities for intellectual training, the general average has been manifestly raised, and the men of greatly superior gifts are rarer and do not stand out so prominently before the church. This opens a wide field for possible, if not always honorable, advancement. No better illustrations could be given of this than the fact that nearly a hundred men received recognition from their peers in the first vote for bishops last week.

This general good average naturally creates the interest of ministerial friends in the different candidates. There are no men that stand so evidently in advance of all others as to bring their names to every man's lips, and it is rarely found that any man is mentioned who is in any marked degree unfitted for the great and responsible office. In some instances the canvass has taken on a personal character, and has been urged with immoderate persistency, or with uncharitable comparisons and ungenerous acts; but we are persuaded

that this has been true only to a very limited degree. It awakened no little anxiety and occasioned every possible guard that wisdom and piety could suggest, to secure an honest, intelligent and conscientious vote.

By making the requisite majority two-thirds, both the difficulty of obtaining an election was increased and the probability of securing the most worthy men was attained. The actual balloting revealed some unexpected and quite astonishing results. Some of the men who were expected to be elected on the first ballots were found quite in the rear of more fortunate candidates, and were soon dropped out of the contest, creating not a little disappointment and some heart-burnings. The one most unpleasant element in the present election was the personal character, in some instances, of the canvass, and the severe attack upon character which in one or two cases occurred. Some members, and more outside workers, will need a fresh baptism from on high to bring them again into happy relations with their evangelical services. The large vote for Dr. Newman on the first ballot created marked surprise. His name had been rarely mentioned among the conspicuous candidates, and few could divine how his case had been so successfully worked up. The Doctor sat calmly in his box throughout the long canvass, apparently unmoved by the unsuccessful efforts of his friends to secure his election. Some of the other candidates walked the corridors, bearing unmistakable evidences of the exacting strain upon their nerves.

Our New England Conference men were not entirely overlooked. Dr. Hamilton and Dr. Upham had very complimentary votes on the first ballots, and Dr. Dorchester found appreciative friends. If the members of the New England delegations could have had a meeting and fixed upon one candidate from the Eastern Conferences, there is but little doubt that he could have been elected. It is to this lack of united action and of unanimity of choice that no addition to the episcopal bench is made from this section at the present session.

After all, the church has ample occasion to feel satisfied and grateful to God in view of the choice that has been made. They are all worthy and excellent men, of well-established character and superior gifts. They are men of an attractive presence and with superior forensic gifts, of tried judgment and of good governing qualities. With God's blessing, they will become a fruitful benediction to the church.

## THE NEW BISHOPS.

BISHOP JOHN H. VINCENT, D. D., needs no introduction to any portion of the church. No man is better known, within or without, the denomination. He has been unique both in his abilities and success as the head of our Sunday-school department and of the marvelous Chautauqua movement. The Bishop is in the prime of life, and his vigor, fifty-six years of age, an Alabama by birth, he entered the ministry in 1853 in New Jersey, was transferred to the West in 1859, became secretary of the Sunday School Union in 1868, from which office he has been raised to the episcopal bench. As we all know, he is a man of fine presence, of a very attractive address, with a clear, full voice, an excellent preacher with an eloquent manner, and with a rare power of organization and the inspiration of his co-laborers. He will not necessarily largely limit his effective service in behalf of the vital department of church work in which he is a master, while he will be a very welcome presiding officer in our Conferences.

BISHOP JAMES N. FITZGERALD, D. D., is in his fifth year, of average size, and wearing the evident signs of physical and intellectual vigor. He was educated at Princeton, and practiced law for some time. His legal abilities are spoken of highly. He has been in the ministry for over twenty years, filling with marked success the pastorate of leading appointments and the office of presiding elder in the Newark Conference. He has been for several years secretary of the Missionary Board, and shown eminent ability in his work. He is an able preacher, and a debater of great power; a man of positive convictions and sound judgment. His friends speak of him in the most unqualified terms. He is a man of dignified and scholarly bearing, of spotless character, and will well sustain the respect and honor of the high office to which he has been elected.

BISHOP ISAAC W. JOYCE, D. D., is about fifty years of age, a gentleman of very attractive appearance, of full, manly proportions, with a striking face, of genial manners, an excellent preacher, and a model pastor. He was educated in the old Asbury University, now De Pauw, Greencastle, Ind. He received his degree of Doctor in Divinity from Dickinson College; was ordained deacon by Bishop Simpson in 1863, and has remained in the pastorate during the intervening years. He has been twice pastor of St. Paul's Church, Cincinnati, and has enjoyed great revivals in his ministry. His memorial paper on Bishop Wiley was admirably written, and produced a strong impression upon the audience. While he may not be considered a great preacher, he has very attractive gifts, and is eminently spiritual. He will be a welcome visitor and moderator in all our Conferences.

BISHOP JOHN P. NEWMAN, D. D., LL. D., elected the fourth in the new board of bishops, was born in New York City in 1826, and is, therefore, sixty-two years of age. His personal appearance is quite familiar to many of our readers—a large, tall, well-proportioned man, with a broad, ruddy, shaven face, a senatorial manner and address, with a rich, sonorous voice, with distinct utterance in measured sentences, graceful in gesture and eloquent in style. No

minister has succeeded in meeting the Congressional taste, and drawing to the Metropolitan M. E. Church of Washington such crowds of hearers from the Senate and House of Representatives as has Dr. Newman. He is now on his third term in that church. The new Bishop was educated in our seminary in Cazenovia, and entered the itinerant ministry in 1849. At a very early day he won great popularity as an eloquent speaker, and, as a lecturer, he has been listened to by crowds in all portions of the country. He has filled many of our largest appointments in different Conferences. At the close of the war he was sent to the South to organize our work there, remaining five years, and accomplishing excellent service. He was chaplain of the U. S. Senate from 1869 to 1874. He was appointed by General Grant inspector of consuls in Asia, and the department bore high testimony to his efficiency and the value of his reports. For two years, without leaving his connection with his own church, he became the pastor of the Madison Avenue Congregational Church in the city of New York. His intimate pastoral and social relation to Gen. Grant and his family is well known. He was with the great soldier in his last sickness, and preached the funeral discourse at his death, in Saratoga. The Bishop has made several important contributions to our literature. The University of Rochester honored him with his doctorate in divinity, and the Grant Memorial University gave him his doctorate of laws.

On the sixteenth ballot BISHOP DANIEL A. GOODSSELL was elected. His vote from the first had been large, and varied but little in the successive ballots. He has already been introduced to our readers as the elected editor of ZION'S HERALD; which office he resigned, by permission of the Wesleyan Association, to accept the secretaryship of the Board of Education. The latter office he has filled with great acceptance during the last year, and has been heard with pleasure in our Conferences. Dr. Goodsell is a tall, full, smooth face, with a determined look, very genial in temper, prudent and conservative in spirit, and greatly esteemed by his ministerial brethren and the churches to which he has ministered. In this instance, without question, the office has sought the man, and not the man the office. He received with unaffected humility and some surprise the announcement of the first vote, and was overwhelmed with congratulations when the last was given to the Conference. Dr. Goodsell is the son of the late Rev. Buell Goodsell, of precious memory in the New York Conference. He was born in Newburg, N. Y., in 1840, and is, then, in the very meridian of his life and intellectual power. He has filled the largest charges in his Conference with great acceptance, and was a prominent candidate for the presidency of Wesleyan University. He was graduated from the University of the City of New York, and although not an author, or writer, has shown a rare ability as a writer in our periodicals. Bishop Goodsell will meet with a warm welcome in our New England Conferences.

The election of no bishop will meet with a heartier recognition throughout our communion than that of BISHOP JAMES M. THOBURN, D. D., missionary bishop for India and Malaysia. Dr. Thoburn has won, both by his self-sacrificing and very successful labors in India, and by his wonderful persuasive eloquence in his addresses in all portions of the country during the last two years, everywhere the respect and affection of our people. His election will be welcomed with unmingled joy throughout our missionary Conferences in India. Dr. Thoburn was born in Ohio in 1836, joined the Pittsburgh Conference in 1858, and was sent to India in 1859. He labored in various positions until he entered the self-supporting work of Bishop Taylor in Southern India, and established a substantial church in Calcutta, securing for it a very fine house of worship. He has since been presiding elder in the South India Conference, and in labors and sacrifices "more abundant." A slight man, of dark hair and complexion, full of nervous energy, of wonderful endurance, a scholar in many branches of learning, of ready address, and of remarkable magnetic power, consecrated to his work, full of faith, hope and courage, a man of deep piety, with excellent organizing and governing abilities, we have good reason to expect, if his life is spared, that his general supervision of the mission in India and Malaysia will be attended with large and blessed results.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

A Fitting Response and Rebuke. The first ballot taken for bishops ought to have been put to rest the sensational rumors about "combines, political manipulations," and the like, which have been so grossly circulated and believed concerning this General Conference. We do not mean that there may not have been some ardent and enthusiastic men who have talked excitedly and pertinaciously in the interest of their favorite candidates for the episcopacy; but to characterize the whole Conference by the discreet deal of the few, is manifestly wrong and defaming. The first ballot shows how unjust have been the accusations that the elections were "fixed in advance." Such spontaneity in the expression of individual preferences we do not remember ever to have seen in any assembly. There were eighty-one candidates in all. For the information of our readers, and to rebuke the groundless declarations about "political practices," we give the entire first ballot: Whole number of votes cast, 447; necessary to a choice, 228. J. H. Vincent 215, J. N. Fitzgerald 195, D. A. Goodsell 158, J. P. Newman 156, I. W. Joyce 145, C. H. Payne 130, J. M. King 125, C. Cranston 128, A. J. Kynett 119, H. A. Butts 115, J. W. Hamilton 86, T. C. Carter 63, S. F. Upham 60, J. R. Day 48, C. N. Sims 47, C. C. McCabe 44, E. W. S. Peck 40, A. Martin 38, T. B. Neely 37, J. O. Peck 30, J. M. Thoburn 17, J. Todd 15, J. H. Baylies 15, D. Dorchester 13, W. Taylor 12, A. B. Leonard 12, C. P. Madden 12, L. R. Pike 10, J. M. Buckley 9.

W. N. McKelroy 9, W. Whitfield 9, D. W. C. Hamilton 8, E. W. S. Hammond 7, A. E. P. Albert 7, E. J. Gray 5, W. H. Olin 5, L. C. Quail 5, J. C. Hartwell 5, O. H. Tiffany 4. Each of the following received three votes: T. B. Ford, G. W. Hughes, A. S. Hunt, W. Swindells, D. Jones, and C. W. Smith.

The following received two each: S. E. Pendleton, G. S. Chadbourn, J. L. Lushan, J. B. Graw, W. F. Whitlock, J. E. Wilson, J. F. Goucher, and W. A. Spencer. The following received one vote each: C. E. Felton, A. H. Axtell, E. R. Dille, T. L. Flood, J. M. Reid, G. S. Hare, A. T. Adams, A. W. Fortie, C. O. Fisher, W. R. Forbes, L. W. Vernon, J. Braden, J. S. Tevis, J. W. Locke, G. Elliott, C. G. Trudell, W. F. King, A. Martin, J. H. Hargis, J. S. Smart, J. W. Johnson, C. O. Bishop, W. E. Brush, J. H. Liebhart, H. B. Ridgway, A. A. Johnson, L. B. Bates, and A. Wheeler.

That it was necessary to cast 16 ballots in order to elect the five men, is a further confirmation of the purity of the elections. We desire the public to distinctly understand that the General Conference is made up of men who cannot be manipulated.

## Little Wanderers.

The twenty-third anniversary of the Home for Little Wanderers was observed with a most appropriate and interesting service in Tremont Temple on evening of the 21st inst., when a large audience was in attendance. Some seventy-five of the children sat in pleasing array upon the tiers of seats on the platform. The exercises of the children in devotional service and in song were most proficient and impressive. J. B. Richardson, esq., of the managers, presided, and in an appropriate address outlined the work of the Home and its prospects and needs in the future when its new West Newton St. structure is completed. Rev. J. W. Ford, chaplain of the State Prison, and Rev. David Gregg, pastor of the Park St. Church, made interesting addresses. In a few eloquent and stirring words Rev. A. A. Cooper, the superintendent, made an appeal to the audience for support, to which generous response was made. The touching fact was made known to us that on the platform were five orphan children of one family, that were brought to the Home in the same carriage which bore them to the burial of the mother. This is one of the noblest and most Christian charities with which we have come in contact.

## GENERAL CONFERENCE BRIEFINGS.

Bishop Foss's sermon on Sunday, the 20th, closed the session with a striking address, and was fully worthy of the sublime occasion. It was thoughtful, eminently spiritual, and left a profound impression. Such occasions are significant as intimating to the church the class of minds and men we need to place in such an office, for these rare and important occasions, as well as for the general supervision of the great interests of the church.

Rev. Bro. Knox, a fine-looking and handsomely-dressed colored pastor, of the Lexington Conference, kept the body in specially good humor in an animated address in favor of the extension of the ministerial term.

At the opening of the session on Tuesday—the first day of the balloting—the devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. DeWitt C. Olmstead, brother of Dr. Olmstead of the Watchman, of our city. His prayer was extended and very earnest, gathering up all the possibilities of the hour. Just before the ballot opened, the senior Bishop (Bowman) led the Conference in a most stirring, spiritual and impressive supplication.

Dr. Payne and Dr. Upham pleaded earnestly in behalf of theological students, that their preliminary examinations for reception into our Conferences, but the proposition was voted down. It was said, if thoroughly trained in the subjects required, they could readily pass the examination without further study; that to remit the requirement created class distinctions; and that the different schools of theology might possibly present variant views upon our accepted doctrines.

May 24 was the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the conversion of John Wesley. It occurred, on that date, at nine o'clock in the evening, in the city of New York. There was preaching daily by Dr. Coke, Bishop Whitcomb (elected at this Conference), Jesse Lee, Philip Bruce, Bishop Ashby, and others. "At times," says Rev. Henry Boehm, as given from his lips in the very interesting "Centennial History of Methodism," by Rev. Dr. John Atkinson, "the excitement threatened to break up the business of Conference. It swept over the city, and many were saved." Bishop Whitcomb says in his journal: "The high praises of God resounded from street to street and from house to house, which greatly alarmed the citizens. It was thought that not less than two hundred were converted during the sitting of our Conference." It certainly is doubtful whether such a religious inspiration will be felt in the city of New York as the result of the present crowded sessions in the Metropolitan Opera House of the General Conference. "Times change, and we change with them." In all parts of the city, however, powerful and gracious sermons have been preached to large and attentive audiences.

One of the "looming" men, certainly, is Dr. Robert Bentley, who heads the California delegation in General Conference. Of good height, full-bearded, rather portly, with a wide part in his hair, with the air of success about him, he is hard to recognize as the tall, bony-looking young man, who, almost thirty years ago, was working his way through Northwestern University. He was bound to win—and he did. When he speaks, men are sure of hearing something worth listening to.

No more marked change in the administration of the church will occur at the present session than the extension of the term from three years to five. The majority of the committee in their report fixed the term at three years, the minority at five; and the latter report was substituted for the former. The debate was especially able; some of the older ministers, like Dr. Quail, of conservative character, advocating a new term with great earnestness and forensic power. The popular young minister of Chicago, Dr. Bristol, made a brilliant address in its favor. The affirmative vote was unexpectedly large; the voting being by orders. The ministers stood 208 to 96, and the laymen 88 to 65.

As the number of ineffectual ballots for bishops increased, the excitement in the Conference grew in proportion. Earnest efforts, amid shouts of disapprobation and the rapping of the chairman, were made to reconsider the vote whereby a two-thirds majority was required. A simple majority would have completed the work in an early ballot. The church

has certainly gained by the larger number of votes required for an election.

Dr. Chadbourn, of the New England Conference, led out the body of tellers during the voting for bishops, and brought in the results of their canvass. The work of counting was skillfully and promptly done.

Bishop Mallien presided on the first day of the election. It was a period of much excitement during the discussion, in the interim of the absence of the tellers, upon the lengthening of the pastoral term—one of the liveliest and ablest debates of the session—but the Bishop kept a very level head, commanded the whole body with his heavy voice, and kept the Conference, in all the eagerness for a hearing, in good temper and good order.

The unique "Pen Portraits" of representative men of the General Conference in our columns, which have attracted such favorable notice, are drawn by Rev. Howard Henderson, D. D., of New York.

It is a noticeable fact that the five names which stood first on the opening ballot for bishops, in the course of the sixteen trials, were finally all elected, and in nearly the order of their original presentation. It speaks well for their appreciation by their brethren that they stood the severe test of so many trials without losing their position upon the several lists.

It is a frequent remark among the members and visitors of the General Conference that five more attractive men, in their general appearance and manners, have never been placed, at once, in the office of bishop of the church, than the successful candidates at the election last week.

When Bishop Foster recognized Dr. Vincent as rising to speak on the report of the committee on Sunday-school periodicals, he said, "Hear Dr. Vincent, brethren, as he leaves this field forever." The Doctor was received with long-continued applause, and his time was extended by unanimous consent.

Rev. Bro. Walsh, of Kentucky, thought it could be shown by the experiment that the Methodist is as mighty with the pen as he is shown himself on the General Conference floor to be with the voice! He was earnestly advocating a first-class weekly Sunday-school sheet.

On the fourteenth ballot, amid long-continued applause, Dr. Newman was declared by the presiding officer, Bishop Foster, as Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church. There was a great rush of his friends to the corridors to bear him their congratulations. It is doubtful whether ever before in the history of the church so protracted, excited, persistent and finally successful a canvass for a candidate for this high office, has occurred. He was elected by 320 votes out of 438; twenty-eight more than the requisite two-thirds.

The subject of a weekly Sunday-school paper was discussed with great earnestness and ability. Rev. Bro. Walsh and Bro. Simkins, of Kentucky, with others, were anxious to have a sheet somewhat similar to the Sunday School Times, with a special editor. The committee's report, advocated with characteristic eloquence by Dr. Vincent, proposed simply certain changes in our Youth, giving it more of a Sunday-school tone, aiding our young people in the preparation of their lessons, and preparing them for the office of teachers. The report of the committee was sustained.

The venerable Dr. Nast, the apostle of our west German work in this country and in Europe, visiting the General Conference, was invited by a rising vote to a seat upon the platform.

Bishop Wilson, of the M. E. Church, South, was introduced to the Conference by Bishop Foster, and was received with extended applause. He made a short and hearty response.

At the laying of the corner-stone of the new edifice for the Book Concern and Mission Building, Dr. D. Dorchester offered prayer, Chaplain McCabe led the singing, and Frank presented the great stone to senior Bishop Thomas Bowman, who gave directions for swinging it into its place. It was a massive six-ton block of granite, and contained the names of the church officers and current religious newspapers.

At the General Conference held in Baltimore, commencing May 6, 1880—the third of these meetings of the supreme council of the church—a remarkable revival was enjoyed. There was preaching daily by Dr. Coke, Bishop Whitcomb (elected at this Conference), Jesse Lee, Philip Bruce, Bishop Ashby, and others. "At times," says Rev. Henry Boehm, as given from his lips in the very interesting "Centennial History of Methodism," by Rev. Dr. John Atkinson, "the excitement threatened to break up the business of Conference. It swept over the city, and many were saved." Bishop Whitcomb says in his journal: "The high praises of God resounded from street to street and from house to house, which greatly alarmed the citizens. It was thought that not less than two hundred were converted during the sitting of our Conference." It certainly is doubtful whether such a religious inspiration will be felt in the city of New York as the result of the present crowded sessions in the Metropolitan Opera House of the General Conference. "Times change, and we change with them." In all parts of the city, however, powerful and gracious sermons have been preached to large and attentive audiences.

One of the "looming" men, certainly, is Dr. Robert Bentley, who heads the California delegation in General Conference. Of good height, full-bearded, rather portly, with a wide part in his hair, with the air of success about him, he is hard to recognize as the tall, bony-looking young man, who, almost thirty years ago, was working his way through Northwestern University. He was bound to win—and he did. When he speaks, men are sure of hearing something worth listening to.

No more marked change in the administration of the church will occur at the present session than the extension of the term from three years to five. The majority of the committee in their report fixed the term at three years, the minority at five; and the latter report was substituted for the former. The debate was especially able; some of the older ministers, like Dr. Quail, of conservative character, advocating a new term with great earnestness and forensic power. The popular young minister of Chicago, Dr. Bristol, made a brilliant address in its favor. The affirmative vote was unexpectedly large; the voting being by orders. The ministers stood 208 to 96, and the laymen 88 to 65.

As the number of ineffectual ballots for bishops increased, the excitement in the Conference grew in proportion. Earnest efforts, amid shouts of disapprobation and the rapping of the chairman, were made to reconsider the vote whereby a two-thirds majority was required. A simple majority would have completed the work in an early ballot. The church

has certainly gained by the larger number of votes required for an election.

Dr. Chadbourn, of the New England Conference, led out the body of tellers during the voting for bishops, and brought in the results of their canvass. The work of counting was skillfully and promptly done.

Bishop Mallien presided on the first day of the election. It was a period of much excitement during the discussion, in the interim of the absence of the tellers, upon the lengthening of the pastoral term—one of the liveliest and ablest debates of the session—but the Bishop kept a very level head, commanded the whole body with his heavy voice, and kept the Conference, in all the eagerness for a hearing, in good temper and good order.

The unique "Pen Portraits" of representative men of the General Conference in our columns, which have attracted such favorable notice, are drawn by Rev. Howard Henderson, D. D., of New York.

It is a noticeable fact that the five names which stood first on the opening ballot for bishops, in the course of the sixteen trials, were finally all elected, and in nearly the order of their original presentation. It speaks well for their appreciation by their brethren that they stood the severe test of so many trials without losing their position upon the several lists.

It is a frequent remark among the members and visitors of the General Conference that five more attractive men, in their general appearance and manners, have never been placed, at once, in the office of bishop of the church, than the successful candidates at the election last week.

When Bishop Foster recognized Dr. Vincent as rising to speak on the report of the committee on Sunday-school periodicals, he said, "Hear Dr. Vincent, brethren, as he leaves this field forever." The Doctor was received with long-continued applause, and his time was extended by unanimous consent.

Rev. Bro. Walsh, of Kentucky, thought it could be shown by the experiment that the Methodist is as mighty with the pen as he is shown himself on the General Conference floor to be with the voice! He was earnestly advocating a first-class weekly Sunday-school sheet.

On the fourteenth ballot, amid long-continued applause, Dr. Newman was declared by the presiding officer, Bishop Foster, as Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church. There was a great rush of his friends to the corridors to bear him their congratulations. It is doubtful whether ever before in the history of the church so protracted, excited, persistent and finally successful a canvass for a candidate for this high office, has occurred. He was elected by 320 votes out of 438; twenty-eight more than the requisite two-thirds.

and much-esteemed friends, Rev. C. W. Bradley and wife, now of Concord, N. H. Bradley died this afternoon, the 21st, of heart fever. He was sick less than a week. His heart was broken, but the Divine Healer was with us. The oldest boy, Louis, is sick with fever, but of a milder form, and the sick children, we trust, will escape. The people of Bellevue Memorial are very kind. Pray for us.

The clearing request will receive tender and affectionate response.

Miss Jennie Farwell, formerly of the faculty of the Vermont Conference Seminary and later of the Gannett School, Boston, was summoned by telegram to Charleston, S. C., last week, by the death of her mother.

Dr. Howard Henderson has accepted the lecture season, for a limited number of evenings, and those who contemplate engaging him would do well to address Rev. Dr. Vincent, Tremont Street, Boston, as we are informed he is likely to be in prime demand for his admirable lecture on "The Swords of Grant and Lee."

We shall publish in our next issue a reply to the article of Prof. C. C. Braden on "Free Trade," which recently appeared in our columns, by Hon. James F. Ains, of Salem.

Prof. and Mrs. Cassidy, so favorably known as Lowell Seminary, have accepted the management of Norfolk College for Young Ladies, Norfolk, Va.

Boston University is closing a most prosperous year. The number of its students in the School of Theology, in the College of Liberal Arts, and in the University as a whole, is greater than ever before. Its Commencement will occur on Wednesday, June 6. The action of official Conference visitors, alumni and others, is called to the announcements in another column.

Marshall Livingston Perrin, graduate of Harvard College, class of '74, the last two years, by official appointment, lecturer of English in the Göttingen University, has been appointed instructor in the North European languages and literatures, in Boston University.

Many of our readers will be pleased to learn of the marriage of







## The Family.

FOR ALL.

BY HOLLIS FREEMAN.

Slowly she walked through the fields of May,  
Where the hedgerows had wakened all green and fair,  
And the voice of the spring called loud to each heart,  
While the breath of its fragrance fanned the air.

"T is the month for the young," she softly said,  
"The young and happy, the loved and the fair;  
For those that are dreaming the beautiful dreams  
With a gay heart that knows not of grief or of care."

"For those that are weaving sweet visions of joy,  
Soft gilding the summer with gem and with crown,  
Not for those that must stand by their bier to watch  
The blossoms of beauty fall withered and brown."

She plucked a flower with a gentle hand,  
The birds fitted by with their joyous song;  
"The spring is for all," she said with a smile,  
"God sends it alike for the old and the young."

"I thank in its beauty, I feel its breath;  
Once more on his handiwork hath he smiled;  
I know that His goodness is waiting to bless,  
That He is my Father, and I am His child."

"I, too, have dreams of a summer land,  
With its fadeless blossoms and crystal sea;  
I see the light on a welcoming face,  
And know that God sends His springtime for me."

### MEMORY'S MINISTRY.

BY REV. JAMES TEAMES.

"Then remembered I the word of the Lord."—ACTS 11:16.

Dark was the hour, and dreary;  
Sombre my soul, and weary;  
Moan of the winter-wind, plash of the rain,  
Chimed with the sighing, the groaning, the crying,  
As I lay weeping, all wearily keeping  
Through the slow night-watch a vigil of pain.  
Then, far across the east,  
While wind and shower ceased,  
Flashed the first streamers of light in the sky;  
Heralding morning, bringing the dawning,  
Lifting my thought to the glory on high.  
Then I remembered the word of the Lord—  
Patient endurance brings precious reward!

Still lies the form, and rigid;  
Pulseless as marble, cold;  
Cold now the hand which so lately clasped mine.  
Silent, unheeding; dead—dead to my pleading;  
Light of life vanished, my hope and joy banished,  
While in bereavement, heart-broken, I pine!  
Gleamed there the snowdrop's cup,  
Holding its petals up,  
Catching the sunshine and dew and sweet air;  
Winter's bonds sprang, heavenward turning,  
Raised from its grave in life rich and fair.  
Then I remembered the word of the Lord—  
Thy dead shall be raised, and thy treasure restored!

### DECORATION DAY.

The last sad note has passed away,  
The bugle's moan in distance dies;  
Alone the wailing wind of May  
Amid her tender verdure sighs.  
Where here and there the banners wave,  
A little heap of faded flowers  
Bedecks some valiant soldier's grave  
Already greened with sun and showers.  
As well they sleep through wintry snows  
As through the summer's sun and rain;  
Their hands have picked the only rose  
That grows on earth without a thorn.

But we who still in wars abide,  
Who lose their strength and weep their loss,  
Assuage our grief and vain our pride  
With floral wreath and blooming cross.  
One tale they tell of sharp regret,  
Of faithful memory, fond despair,  
Of eyes with tears still streaming wet,  
And agonies of lonely prayer.

Is war then worth the woe it brings,  
The broken heart, the blossomed grave?  
Ah! high in heaven above me rings  
The shout of freedom—from a slave.  
—Rose Terry Cooke.

### THOUGHTS FOR THE THOUGHTFUL.

To all, sooner or later, Christ comes to baptize them with fire. But do not think that the baptism of fire comes once for all to a man in some terrible affliction, some awful conviction of his own sinfulness and nothingness. No; with many—and those, perhaps, the best people—it goes on month after month, and year after year. By secret trials, chastenings, which none but they and God can understand, the Lord is cleansing them from their secret faults and making them understand wisdom secretly; burning out of them the chaff of self-will, and self-conceit, and self-vainglory, and leaving only the pure gold of righteousness. How many sweet and holy souls, who look cheerful enough before the eyes of men, yet have their secret sorrows. They carry their cross unseen all day long, and lie down to sleep on it at night; and they will carry it, perhaps, for years and years, and to their graves and to the throne of Christ, before they lay it down, and none but they and Christ will ever know what it was—what was the secret chastisement which God sent to make the soul better, which secret work was ready to do good for earth. So does the Lord watch His people, and tries them by fire, as the refiner of silver sits by his furnace watching the melting metal, till he knows that it is purified from all its dross by seeing the image of his own face reflected on it.—Charles Kingsley.

Here I must pause—the roads diverge,  
And one, I know, is mine;  
Impatient heart, be still, nor urge  
Thy heat, thy haste; my Father's will  
Is that I wait. Lord, take my will in Thine!

Lights beckon o'er one road, and one  
Grows chill, and dark, and dim;  
Joy for the heart, glad work began,  
Hope, promise, blessing, glid the one,  
And one is cold—O heart, trust thou in Him!

I may not choose—Thine are the ways—  
All ways lead up to Thee;  
If sun or shade lie on my days,  
I need not ask; be Thou my sun,  
And light my soul, till I Thy candle be.

What though I burn? Thine is the flame,  
Thine is the air that feeds;  
Soul of my soul, thine sacred name,  
Where'er I go, where'er I stay,  
Through life, through death, Thine be the hand  
That leads!

—Mrs. D. H. GODDARD, in *Congregationalist*.

It needs, for instance, but a short experience of life to see that the mass of men are greedy and selfish. Self is the all but universal idol—is for millions the sole law of existence. Men jostle each other, and struggle in the present, and care little for the future, and show the brutal spectacle of that perverted life which lives and dies only for itself. And yet it is possible for men to become—and thousands of men have become—perfectly, beautifully unselfish, caring hardly for the happiness of others more than for their own. St. Marcus the hermit lived in the desert in a little community of solitaries. One day there was brought to him that which in the hot desert is the most tempting and exquisite of all luxuries, a bunch of fresh

purple grapes with the bloom and mist of their delicious ripeness upon them. Marcus hated the thought of taking them himself; he preferred that another should enjoy the boon, and handed it to one of the brothers; but the same motive was strong in him, and he gave it to another. But again, this other preferred the enjoyment of a companion to his own; and so, in the absolute unselfishness of that little community, the untouched, tempting grapes were handed from one to another, none wishing to keep what would be pleasant to his fellow, till at last they were handed back to Marcus again. Unselfishness, you see, had become as completely the law of that little brotherhood as selfishness is the law of the common world. Oh, how infinitely lovelier is the spectacle presented by these saints of God and their love for one another, and their wish that others should be blessed, than is daily presented in this hard, mean, modern world!—F. W. Farrar, D. D., F. R. S.

The unchangeableness of God in the midst of all the changes of our life is a deep source of comfort. Those ancient saints dwelt upon it more than we seem to do, and they were made very strong by it. I console them in the absence of the clear view of their own immortality; it was the soil in which the seed of it lay, and to which we should still seek to carry down the roots of our faith. Beneath this shifting face of things, where we look on endless change, there is a great life that is not only the source but the sustenance of ours, a life that is not blind and purposeless, but conscious and wise. It is not merely a life, but an ever-living One, and it is in His bosom that we are born and live and die. We have many deaths before we come to the last—some of them which seem sorer than even the last—some are deaths of desires, deaths of hope, deaths of friends. And yet, if we have carried them to the last change, there is a new death, a life, some new and higher hope, some deeper and richer possession of the soul. Amid these changes we have felt that we were taking in something unchanging which could be taken in. And this may give us the hope that the last change will have a like result, the last death a corresponding life to us. We may have the confidence of this, if we realize the thought of an ever-living God, who not only gave being to our souls, but holds them in His hand, and puts into them desires after Himself. All the changes, whether of life or death, cannot affect our relation to Him, except in bringing us nearer. Without an eternal God, what refuge would there be for troubled souls? When the sea is tempest-tossed, we flee to land; when the land quakes, we look to heaven; when all things are dissolved, then to Him who says, "I am the Lord, I change not." We may lie quietly down in our little earthly homes when we have the overarching sky of God's hand above us, the shadow of the Almighty; and we may lie down hopefully in our graves when we commit ourselves to an unchanging God. "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms."—Rev. John Ker, D. D.

### IN THE HOLLOW OF GOD'S HAND.

A Story for Decoration Day.

BY BELLE V. CHISHOLM.

ONE beautiful morning in the autumn of 1863, a fair-haired, boyish looking lad took leave of his father and mother, in the old vine-covered porch that surrounded the house that had sheltered him for nearly eighteen years. It was just after the battle of Chickamauga, and his patriotic heart was fired with zeal for his country, notwithstanding his brother Dick had been sent home from the bloody field in his coffin. From the hour that the firing on Sumter aroused the slumbering North, Eastman Crosby had kept his eye and heart steadily fixed upon the flag of his country; but as his three elder brothers had enlisted early in the war, he could not think of leaving his parents alone, particularly as there was a heavy mortgage on the farm, and his father was not able to work as he had once done. But now a grand opportunity had opened up to him. Squire Hutton's son had been drafted, and the father had offered him a thousand dollars to go as William's substitute. This would lift the mortgage, and leave two hundred dollars to aid the parents, should the crops chance to prove a failure.

"Do not weep, mother. Remember, God holds me in the hollow of His hand," Eastman said, as he felt her hot tears dropping upon his face.

"Dying, or living, my boy, I feel you are safe in His hand; but, oh! I cannot think of my baby lying cold and stiff alone on the battlefield," she cried bitterly.

"What would be more glorious, mother, than to die for my country? From the battlefield to heaven the steps are few and short." There was a rapturous look in his eye as he spoke, and then, the farewell over, he went out from the dear home-nest forever.

When peace was proclaimed and the boys came marching home in triumph, Eastman Crosby came too, but not with songs of gladness, for the pine box his comrades bore so tenderly contained a still, white form—the last of the four Crosby brothers who had sealed their patriotism by their blood. He was as safe "in the hollow of God's hand" as if his noble heart had not been pierced by the last bullet fired in the terrible struggle.

Nearly eighteen years later the old silver-haired father, now grown feeble and infirm, sat in the kitchen of the same old farm-house, with his head bowed upon his withered hands. Back and forth went the aged wife about her daily work, ever and anon pausing to speak a cheery word to the husband who had been her strength in the days of affliction. Once or twice she went to the door, and shading her eyes with her thin hands, looked long and wistfully toward the churchyard on the hill, where old veterans were strewing the graves of their comrades with flowers. She could see the flags waving and hear the muffled beat of the drums, and her eyes filled with tears when she thought of her four boys lying so still on the sunny slope, while their poor old father was weeping because in a few days they would be homeless.

Once the music, low and plaintive, on the wings of the gentle wind came floating in at the open door. Starting up, the old man asked: "What is that sound I hear?"

"It is the band playing in the cemetery," answered his wife. "This is Decoration Day, and the soldiers have gone up on the hill to deck their comrades' graves."

"I guess I was dreaming, for I thought the boys were coming home," the old man replied sadly; and then, after a moment's study, he added: "Better strew a few flowers around the homes of the living than to waste so much money over the dust of the dead."

"But they deserved to be remembered, father, and you know we have four graves among the soldier dead ourselves," said Mrs. Crosby, softly.

"I can never forget that, mother; nor do I need to be reminded of the fate of our boys, for their untimely end is ever before me. Had

they not died, we would not have been left helpless and dependent in our old age. And to think that it is Squire Hutton who will turn us into the road in the morning, notwithstanding the bullet that slew our youngest born was designed for his own idolized boy! We gave our baby's life to save that of his son, and now all the gratitude he shows is to send us to the poor-house."

"God will still keep us in the hollow of His hand, if we only trust Him," comforted his wife. "Don't you remember Eastman's words that day he left us?"

"I mind all as if it were but yesterday, and I can't help feeling that God has dealt sorely with us—sorely, indeed, mother."

Neither of the aged couple had heard a footstep along the path, nor observed a frowning face that glanced in at the south window; but Squire Hutton's ear had caught every word that fell from the old man's lips. With a pang of remorse he turned away, wondering if he really were the ungrateful fellow pictured so vividly. Hitherto he had thought of his transaction with Eastman Crosby only from a business point of view. He had paid the boy to go as a substitute—paid him well, he thought—and that was the end of the matter. But poor old Mr. Crosby's bitter words had started a new train of thought. What was a thousand dollars compared to his son's life? Was not the poor man's son as precious as his own? Surely, this aged couple belonged to him. He had deprived them of their means of support, and now for the sake of a few paltry dollars, he was about to foreclose a mortgage on their little home that would drive them to the poor-house.

That evening the old couple took their accustomed seats on the old-fashioned porch. Their hearts were heavy, for this was the last time that they would view the setting sun from the home that had been theirs for nearly fifty years.

The gate clicked, and instinctively they drew closer together as Squire Hutton's stately form appeared. In his hand he carried a formidable looking document, which he laid upon the frightened man's knee, as he took the chair by his side.

Mr. Crosby pushed the paper aside, saying bitterly: "I know its contents. The old woman and I will be ready to go to the poor-house in the morning, and Neighbor Jones promised to send his hired man over with a team, bright and early, to give us a lift on our way."

"But you are not to go, as you will understand when you read that paper," urged the Squire, presenting the paper again.

Through his tears Mr. Crosby succeeded in making out that the farm was still his, free of all encumbrance, and that it was Squire Hutton's money that had paid off all claims against it, as well as canceled the heavy mortgage he held himself. I need not tell you that there was joy in those old people's hearts when they realized that they were to spend the remainder of their days in the house where they had so long mingled their joys and sorrows. With their benediction still ringing in his ears, Squire Hutton turned his face homeward, feeling that it was really more blessed to give than to receive.

"God never forgets us, though we are so unmindful of Him," cried the old man joyfully, when the two were alone; and the faithful woman's answer was the same that Eastman gave her that morning he bade her good-by: "God still holds us in the hollow of His hand."

### ABOUT WOMEN.

At the last meeting of the Royal Botanic Society in England three ladies were elected members.

The deceased wife's sister bill has passed the British House of Commons by a good majority.

A large number of women voted at the municipal elections in Scotland recently, and seven women in a number of cities and boroughs were elected to local government bodies.

A ton of ropes made from the hair of the women of Japan is used in building the \$300,000 Buddhist temple at Kyoto.

Mrs. Zerelda G. Wallace, mother of Gen. Lew Wallace, receives a cordial welcome at the East, where she is at present lecturing.

The Queen of Sweden has been ordered by her doctors to get up early, make her own bed, take care of her own room, work in the garden and take long walks. Under this regimen, her health is visibly improving.

A native newspaper for ladies has been started in Mysore. The leading features will be serial stories, translations from Shakespeare, descriptions of travel, biographies of eminent women, articles on needlework, etc.

A large Brooklyn dry-goods firm lately offered to give each of the 40 saleswomen a new dress if they would all wear black. They accepted. The manager says it is not as a badge of service, but because black looks better against the pile of dry goods of many colors. The idea is purely aesthetic and is imported from Paris.

A Woman's International Beneficial Association has been organized, whose object is to open law schools to women; to remove all disabilities to the admission to the bar; to disseminate knowledge concerning woman's legal status, and to secure better legal conditions for women. The president is Catherine V. Waite, of Chicago; the general secretary, Ada M. Bittenbender, of Lincoln, Neb.; the foreign secretaries are Eliza Orem, London; Lidia Post, Italy; Mme. Eventoff, Russia; E. Kempin, Switzerland; Almada E. Hitchcock, Hawaii.

### THE SKEPTICAL SHOEMAKER.

"I HAVE read," said the shoemaker, "a good deal about the heathen gods, and I believe the account of Christ is taken from some of the heathen writings or other."

"Will you abide by your own decision on two questions which I will put to you?" said the Bible-reader. "If so, I will freely do the same. I will abide by your own answers; by doing so we shall save much time, and arrive more quickly at the truth."

"Well," said he, "out with it, and let us see if I can answer; there are but few things but what I can say something about."

"Well, my friend," replied the reader, "my first question is: Suppose all men were Christians according to the account given to us in the gospels concerning Christ, what would be the state of society?"

He remained silent for some time in deep thought, and then was constrained to say: "Well, if all men were really Christians in practice as well as theory, of course we should be a happy brotherhood indeed."

"I promised you," said the reader, "that I would abide by your answer; will you do the same?"

"O yes," he readily replied; "no man can deny the goodness of the system in practice. But now for the other question; perhaps I shall get on better with that. You have got a chalk this time against me."

"Well, my next question is this: Suppose all men were infidels, what then would be the state of London and the world?"

He seemed still more perplexed, and remained a long time silent. At length he said: "You certainly have beaten me, for I never before saw the two effects upon society. I now see that where the Christian builds up the infidel pulls down. I thank you; I shall think of what has passed this afternoon."

The sequel was that he was fully persuaded in his own mind to give up all his infidel companions, and follow the Lord Jesus Christ. But the reader called he had sat on an old dirty chair, with a number of half-stuffed children sitting in their rags on the floor around him, neglected and uncared for; now they have removed to a better home in a fine street. With all is cheerful and happy. The father, no longer faithless, dejected in the company of his wife and children, all of whom are neatly dressed; and his chief happiness is to read and speak to them of the things which belong to their everlasting peace.—H. L. Hastings.

### RELIGION ON STILTS.

THAT is a poor kind of religion; none of it for me, if you please, and if I had my way there would be none of it for you. The idea of putting the promises and the power and the preciousness of Christ, and the comforts of the Comforter, up so high above the works of every-day life, that there is no sweet rest or utility in this world.

No, no. Christ walks with the humble over dusty roads. He will as soon help a washer-woman at the tub as a preacher in the study. The Holy Ghost will lead ploughmen as well as philosophers. A Monday religion is much better than a Sunday profession. The coal digger and the capitalist stand on a par when it comes to the benefits of the gospel. There is oftentimes more piety in the kitchen than in the parlor. For power in prayer do not look always to the middle seat in the centre aisle. Let the preacher take a glance in the amen corner, or gallery, or back by the door, and he will find religion on its knees.

Some people have lots of religion and no Christ, and these folks always owe stills. I am getting into that mood when I want less and less to do with a mere formal religion any day. Give me Christ. That is better to all else, for He is precious and walks on the same level with poor tempted me.—Rev. C. H. YATMAN, in *New York Observer*.

### A FEW CHOICE NEW ROSES.

BY MRS. M. D. WELLCOME.

EVERYBODY is interested in roses. Everybody likes to hear and read about them, everybody wants them, and many will have them. We always like to know about new roses, though it is often true that they fail to come up to the high standard set forth. There is one, however, come to the front this year, sustained by such testimony, I am quite sure we can depend on its being a first-class rose. It received the award of a gold medal at the National Rose Society, England, July, 1885. This is proof of its value in that country, but is not of so much weight to us as the testimony of those who have tested this rose here. Mr. F. L. Temple, of Cambridge, Mass., so fully describes it, and his own experience with it, that we will quote his testimony:—"I

"Mrs. John Laing: Hybrid Perpetual. This is undoubtedly the finest hybrid rose introduced in the past ten years. It is a seedling from Francois Michon. It is a remarkably strong grower, deliciously fragrant, a very free bloomer, and bears fine long stems surmounted by well-shaped buds of large size. Color, a beautiful soft pink. This rose was raised by Bennett of England, and was called by the first horticultural magazine, on its first exhibition there, 'the finest light-colored rose ever shown in England.' I grew it last season at Shady Hill, the first season of its appearance in this country, and the results were so surprising that I will relate them. Plants six inches high were set out June 14, and gave three crops of perfectly magnificent blossoms, of great size and of the most exquisite and powerful rose fragrance, and, finally, of unusual substance of bloom. This last point is of great importance to an outdoor rose, as it enables it to keep in good condition in the hot sun for several days. I have never had so pleasant a surprise as in this. It is the nearest to an ideal perfect outdoor rose of any I have ever known, as far as my experience goes. It gave me last season a full crop of the grandest show flowers every three weeks. I exhibited blossoms from each crop to the seedsmen and florists of Boston, and there are many to fully substantiate all this strong praise. All real lovers of the best in roses, must not fail to try this superb flower, and I will engage to replace the cost to any one who is not thoroughly pleased with Mrs. John Laing."

This rose had been already added to our order list when we read this high eulogy, and it increased our satisfaction when we learned how truly valuable it was. One may easily count on their fingers the number of true perpetual hardy hybrids, and to have another, and of such a choice character, is matter for rejoicing.

*Disinore*, a novelty of last year belonging to this class, is said to be ever-blooming and of good form and size. Color, a rich shade of crimson. Mr. Peter Henderson sold large plants of this rose last spring for \$5. He said it was the best summer bloomer of all hardy roses. Medium-sized plants can be purchased this year for fifty cents.

Another hardy, ever-blooming rose of late introduction is named "Ball of Snow." It is invaluable for cemetery or other planting, where white flowers are desired, as it blooms freely all summer."

*Alfred Colomb* is not a new rose, but one tried and true as a beautiful hardy perpetual, very sweet, color, bright crimson.

The best hybrid tea is *Pierre Guillot*, very large and full, fragrant, and a constant bloomer. Perfectly hardy. *Antoine Verdier* is also a very fine hybrid tea, hardy at the North, and a wonderful autumn bloomer."

Homer is another hardy, ever-blooming rose of vigorous growth, highly commended by the *London Garden*. "In the autumn its colors are marbled with exquisite art, until it vies with the most beautiful of all our roses."

### HOME TOILETS.

THERE are some women, too many, who dress at home in such a style that they are always ashamed to be seen by anybody but home folks. If a knock at the front door is heard, they run and hide, or wait till they have "fixed up" before opening it. In their creed anything is good enough for home folks; all nice things—clothes, food, dainties—must be saved for company. Any old calico or worn dress is good enough to do housework in, any old worn-out shoes good enough to wear round the house. As a natural result of this theory, the parlor is shut up, save on great occasions, the sitting-room is rarely used, and the family life passes entirely in the kitchen. It is no unusual thing for women

who hold such theories, and carry them out in practice, to find no time to comb their hair, trim their dresses, or wash their faces, and go round with it in a frowzy two-thirds of the day. This is, perhaps, the case with farmers' wives more than with any other class of work-people. The mechanic's wife has got breakfast ready, and sold her husband good-bye for the rest of the day by seven o'clock in the morning, but at that hour the farmer's wife sees no stopping-place for hours to come. Milk, cream, butter, chickens, pigs, calves, children, hired help, keep her hands and her thoughts busy, too busy to think of how she looks while at her work. But how she is continually impressed on her children, her husband, her servants, if she has them, and this impression often results in the going of her sons to cities and into trade or mechanics rather than staying on the farm. It results in a preference on her daughter's part for professional men and merchants rather than farmers for their husbands. Nothing is more natural.

Pretty and tasteful home toilets are not expensive. Calico of fair quality can be bought at eight cents a yard, and with a clean calico dress on and a nice calico apron the housewife may always be neatly dressed while at her work. If she unvaryingly combs her hair in the morning before engaging in any household task, her hair will be good for the day, and a lesson of value will be set her entire household. She will be in a condition to require, as she should, the same tidiness of coiffure in her daughters. A bit of edging in her neck may take the place of a collar, if the collar is too much trouble; and thus neatly attired in fresh calico, and with whole shoes on, she need not hide if there comes a knock on the door.

The wife who is careful of her own appearance while at her work will have more influence in persuading her husband to look no worse than he needs to while at his work than he who cares for none of these things. Much as one may think he or she despises dress, there does not live the man or the woman whose self-respect is not for the proper attention to the clothing of the body, which is the temple of the indwelling soul in which dwells the Holy Spirit.—*Christian Advocate*.

### The Little Folks.

POLLY PERCY'S PRIZE.

"I F I were not trying to be a Christian," soliloquized little Miss Polly Percy, "I could try for that prize. O dear! I most wish I wasn't—N-no; I don't mean that, not exactly, but—well, it would be lovely if I could get the prize. I guess—yes, I think I will try for it. Anyway, don't papa and mamma expect me to be the very best scholar? If they were at home, they'd tell me to, I know, and of course I ought to obey. And that watch is the loveliest thing! I've wanted one for ages, and now—I declare I most wish that there wasn't any Kitty Lowe; for then I could try for that prize—Why! I didn't see you before, grandma."

"You do not use your eyes to as good advantage as I do my ears," smiled Mrs. Percy. "But what is the trouble, my dear? Perhaps I can tell you what to do, as mother is not here to advise. Well, Polly,—"

"It's a prize," began Polly, eagerly. "Mr. Roberts, one of the committee, has offered it, and he said it's the very dearest little watch, grandma—he said that if there were two best scholars the rest of the term he would divide the money that the watch is worth between them, and if there was only one best scholar, he would give her either the money or the watch. I'd take the watch, grandma—wouldn't you?"

"I see no reason why you should not try to win the watch, darling," said grandma; "that is, provided you are honest in your endeavors."

"I didn't tell you the reason," explained Polly. "I—you see, Kitty and I are both best scholars; she is No. 1 one week, and I'm No. 1 the next. But she's dreadfully poor, grandma, and so I lend her my books, and we study together any more we wish, and both have the prize—and I don't want fifteen dollars, I want the watch—and it will be selfish if I don't study with her, and—"

Grandma smiled sympathetically as Polly paused.

"You know what you ought to do, Polly," she said; "now tell me what you will do."

"I don't know," Polly confessed, shaking her head mournfully. "I don't want to be selfish, for it is horrid; and besides, I don't please Jesus—and I do want to please Him. But O grandma! you don't know how much I want that watch! It's any quantity prettier than Caddy Hollandsen's ever thought of being. Grandma, don't you suppose our Lord was ever selfish—just the least bit, you know—when He was a little boy?"

"Even Christ pleased not Himself," quoted Mrs. Percy softly.

"Well," sighed Polly, after a long silence—"I, rather guess, grandma, that I shall try to be willing for Kitty to win the prize. I know she will if I don't, because the other girls don't care about having good lessons; and I wish you'd pray that I may be willing that she should have the whole prize, instead of only half."

"That's my brave girl!" said grandma, approvingly.

Ever so many weeks after, Mr. Roberts handed scarlet-checked Kitty three bright gold eagles as the reward for her good study. Then Miss Kidder, the teacher, said: "Polly Percy deserves honorable mention; had it not been for an unlucky spelling-lesson, in which she misspelled one word, she would be entitled to half the prize."

And Kitty, her arms thrown about Polly's neck, whispered, "You are the loveliest girl! I know you missed 'elocation' on purpose that day, and I wish you hadn't—only now I can buy lots of medicine for mamma, and shoes for Baby Rob."

After all, grandma's praise was best: "Darling, yours is the 'prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.'"—S. S. Times.

### HOME DECORATION.

Dining Room Chairs.

A good makeshift for dining-room chairs is obtained by using round-bottomed, rush-seated, black cheap chairs covered with cretonnes and chintzes, lined with pale backings and stuffed, the same being adopted for the covering of couches and easy chairs. A frilling hanging some four inches deep may be suspended from the cushion or squab of the chair. Flashes and veils are more liable to fade than a fast-colored chintz. Several good patterns of basket work are to be had, or well-shaped rattan chairs, partly draped, do very nicely.—*Decorator and Furnisher*.

A cheap wall paper, of suitable color and unobtrusive design, is always to be preferred to a costly one that makes itself visible at once; the proper office of carpet and walls being not to display themselves, but the furniture, to the best advantage. For a small room, the paper should be particularly light in tone; and, if not quite plain, the pattern should be very small, and undistinguishable at a little distance. This adds to the apparent size of a room; and, with a noticeably low ceiling, no frieze should be used, a picture-rail alone being sufficient finish.

A confusion of colors will spoil any room; and, as some one has well said, to the smallest appointments—a cushion, or a chair-covering, can be as complete a disfigurement as a carpet which does not accord with the wall paper or curtains, which kill the soft tints of the "faded" wood-work. There is a decided color in colors; some suggesting warmth and action, while others breathe of coolness and repose. Thus, red is a color that seems very much alive, and for that reason should not be used in a bright, sunny room, for which blue, green, gray, drab, violet, and fawn are the proper colors. Red,

pink, salmon, buff, and cream belong to the bill room, or wherever the light comes only in a stream, misty or shadowy. Even such places, however, can be made cheery with the right coloring, and a glowing open fire, with bright brass fender and andirons—Woman.

### Window Draperies.

There is a great variety of materials in use for window curtains nowadays—silk, lace, and tulle—but there is nothing so dainty as the old-fashioned dotted Swiss, which is not very expensive, is easily washed, and is suitable everywhere, except perhaps in the elegant city mansion; although even here it is heavy and simply need not be despised. Swiss is made now with very large dots, some as large as a hen's egg, but the effect of one so small as a hen's egg, being less pronounced. Full ruffles of plain Swiss about three inches wide when finished should be used, and they may be tied back with white cotton cords, white ribbon, or, better still, a ruffle band of the same. The easiest way to put the Swiss on is to sew a tiny cord in them, gathering up at the same time, when they can be sewed to the selvage of the Swiss very quickly. It must be remembered, however, that no starch is to be used when they are laundered. In the first place, stiff draperies are out of place, everything hanging in soft, classic folds now, and, in the second place, they will not stand up after two washings if starch is used.

Tambour, which has been used so much in window draperies of late years, is a fine muslin material, bordered with an all-over design in white satin-stitch. There is a scalloped border at each edge of the material, and ruffled bands of the same extend to tie back the curtains. It is very handsome, and requires very little time to make up, but it is more expensive than the Swiss. Antique lace and insertion are seen both for pane and inside curtains; these also are expensive, and it is not necessary to have rich materials in order to secure good effect. For inside curtains, cheesecloth drapes, especially after it has been washed, but here the rule







## The Week.

## AT HOME.

—Arrangements have been made for faster mail service between Boston and New York.

—The water of the Mississippi has receded. The damage by the flood is over \$4,000,000.

—Hon. W. L. Putnam has been nominated for governor by the Maine Democrats.

—The yacht "Rambler," with sixty tons of dynamite, cleared from New York on an alleged filibustering expedition.

—The Presbyterian General Assembly voted to set aside the Revised Version of the Bible.

—The wages of the 1,000 hands in the Reading Iron Company's tube mills will be reduced 10 per cent June 1 on account of trade depression and low prices.

—Eighteen members of the London Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company arrived in New York, and were received by a delegation from the Boston company.

—Professor E. B. Elliott, who for many years has held the office of government actuary in the treasury department, died very suddenly from apoplexy. He was sixty-four years of age.

—Gen. Sheridan has been suffering from heart disease, and has been in a very critical condition. The last report is that he is much better.

—Rev. Edwin Thompson, the well-known anti-slavery and temperance advocate, died at East Walpole.

—The town of Argonia, Kan., was entirely destroyed by a cyclone Wednesday night.

—Mayor Robinson, of Gloucester, has resigned, because he could not conscientiously sign liquor licenses.

—The Presbyterian General Assembly at Philadelphia unanimously voted to adopt the report favoring union.

—General "Phil" Sheridan is rapidly sinking. The doctors expect his death at any moment.

—It is estimated that the eight-hour carrier law will increase the expenses of the Post-office Department about \$1,000,000. It goes into effect July 1.

## LEGISLATIVE.

—The Senate settled the "oleo" question by refusing—17 to 17—to reconsider the vote by which the bill was rejected; passed to be enacted the Water Gas and Bay State Gas Company's bills; also, the poor debtors' bill, and rejected the bill to incorporate the Boston and Suburban Elevated Railroad Company.

—The House rejected the bill to authorize the Hartford and Connecticut Western Railroad Company to extend its road, refused to reconsider the rejection of the resolve in favor of the House of the Good Shepherd; passed to be engrossed the Water Gas and Bay State Gas Company's bills; and adopted a substitute for the conduct bill; a proposition was introduced to allow all railroads to use the Meigs system.

## CONGRESSIONAL.

—Mr. Blair introduced in the Senate a bill prohibiting all unnecessary work and recreation on the Sabbath. The amended River and Harbor bill was reported. By a vote of 28 to 27 the Senate decided not to discuss the Fisheries treaty in open session. A committee of conference was ordered on the Pensions appropriation bill. The House bill to establish a department of labor was passed. Mr. Stewart condemned the President for his use of the veto power, and maintained that he was imitating Napoleon. A special committee was appointed to examine the meat products of the country.

—The House almost unanimously adopted the bill creating the department of agriculture; passed the Post-office appropriation bill; amended and passed the Senate bill providing for an international marine conference; discussed the Convict Labor bill, the object of which is to confine the products of convicts to the State in which they are produced; also, discussed the Diplomatic and Consular bill. The International Copyright bill will be reported favorably, with an amendment.

## ABROAD.

—The French Senate committee has approved the Panama Canal loan.

—It is estimated that 103 persons belonging to the fishery fleet lost their lives in the recent gale off Ireland.

—Eighteen hundred houses were recently burned in a Korean town, and many people lost their lives.

—Bishop O'Dwyer of Limerick warned Catholics against attending the League meeting Sunday.

—Monster meetings of workmen are being held throughout Germany, and strikes are spreading.

—The French Senate has adopted a proposal requiring of students and schoolmasters only one year of military service.

—The explosion of a cartridge factory near Paris killed several men and wrecked seven buildings.

—At a meeting of prominent Republicans in Paris, resolutions were adopted pledging those present to combat Boulangerism.

—The marriage ceremony of Prince Henry, second son of Emperor Frederick, and Princess Irene, third daughter of Grand Duke Ludwig of Hesse, was solemnized at Charlottenburg on the 24th.

—Lord Lansdowne was given a grand demonstration on the eve of his departure from Ottawa.

—Mr. Gladstone was presented with an address in favor of Home Rule signed by 1,300 Quakers.

—Professor Virchow was decorated with the order of the Red Eagle.

—The number of forged Bank of France notes in circulation is very large.

—The village of Harlan in Roumania was burned. Four hundred families are homeless.

—Dr. Schweinfurth writes from Brussels that there is no reason to be uneasy about Stanley.

—Chinese pirate junks attacked and burned the steamer "San Pablo" in Formosa Straits; a number of the pirates were killed.

—The department of state is advised that the French government has taken possession of the islands of Hayline, Kainia and Bechbora in the Pacific. The lives of several natives and a French ensign were lost at Bechbora.

—Four thousand Frenchmen and

Italians met at Marseilles and protested against Italy's foreign policy.

—A gasometer at Montreal exploded, and five workmen were killed and eight injured.

(Continued from Page 5.)

and subscribe for ZION'S HERALD. Such action would, no doubt, please the above-mentioned editors, and be of real and permanent profit to their patrons.

Rev. W. F. Davis, who met with a serious accident last winter which disabled him for many weeks, is now able to do full work as pastor, of the Fairhaven church, also to assist his neighboring brethren. He visited the General Conference a few days since, and seems strong and vigorous.

Rev. C. W. Gallagher, D. D., president of the district, has sent out to the pastors a circular letter calling their attention to the great work which is before them for the year upon which they have just entered, and at the same urging them to so direct their energies that the highest ministerial success may be secured. That Christians may be lifted to a higher conception of their duty and privilege, that revivals may be universal, that the benevolences of the church may receive more and earlier attention with an increase, as a result, in the collections, and that our preachers' meetings and camp-meetings may be of great spiritual and intellectual profit, are the special objects of solicitation and desire in this timely and fraternal paper. It is ardently hoped that these suggestions will be regarded with favor, and also be put into execution.

The year opens pleasantly at Dighton. The small deficiency reported at Conference has been paid. On the evening of May 21, a goodly number of the congregation called at the parsonage, spent a few hours pleasantly, and retired, leaving a ample supply of provisions for the physical man.

X. Y. Z.

Providence District.

The Year Book of the New England Southern Conference does credit to Rev. J. W. Willett, who is the statistical secretary of the Conference and publisher of the "book." It contains 100 pages, and is a finely-printed document. All who know Bro. Willett's methods will expect to find this as near perfect as the circumstances will allow. A new feature has been introduced this year, which adds to the value of the book. The names of the Sunday-school superintendents and recording stewards are inserted, making it convenient for these officers to learn the post-office addresses of one another. Eight thousand copies were printed, and every one has been sent out. They are delivered to the churches in quantities at ten cents a copy.

A terrible accident occurred at Apponaug, a station on the Providence & Stonington railroad about four miles from East Greenwich. Two young persons, sixteen and thirteen years old, were on the bridge near the station when the New York express came round a curve at a mile a minute. It was possible for them to step on the other track, but probably surprised and excited, they remained, when the engine struck them and both were instantly killed. The older of the two was a student at East Greenwich. Professor Blakeslee and many members of the Academy attended the funeral. Professor B. spoke in the highest terms of his character and attainments as a student.

The Asbury Church, Providence, will be ready for dedication (D. V.) in October. Services are expected to be held for three days. Bishop Foster, if able, will preach the dedication sermon. Revs. E. McChesney and W. L. Phillips, former members of the Conference, are also expected to preach.

Chief of State Police Curtis seems to have some old-fashioned notions about law and his oath of office. He really acts as though mayors and millionaires were as accountable to the law as poor Pat in his forlorn saloon. This is a new idea for Rhode Island politicians, and perhaps they will secure a more prudent man for the office. He has caused the arrest of a millionaire in high social position for renting a building for a liquor nuisance, and created quite a commotion by notifying the mayor of Providence that the city was in the same condemnation. Both cases are notorious, showing how low the political morality of the city has fallen. One thousand dollars worth of more or less liquor were seized in a very respectable location from a very respectable (?) firm, Thursday, May 17. Raids of this kind are of daily occurrence by both State and city officers. The State police so far are doing the heaviest business.

Norwich District.

Williamatic.—We regret to learn that Presiding Elder Edson was compelled to return from General Conference because of ill-health. Dr. D. A. Whedon, the first ministerial reserve, occupies his place. Bro. Edson in a private note says he expects to start soon on his tour of visitation of the first quarterly conferences. The General Conference was visited by a number of brethren from this district.

Burnside.—This Sunday-school has been organized into a missionary society, and the increased interest is manifested by the increased collections. The church prayer-meeting is growing in numbers and spiritual interest. The pastor's salary has been advanced to \$1,100. Rev. J. H. Allen, the pastor, is an indefatigable student, and his church appreciates his superior scholastic attainments.

Staffordville.—Rev. W. C. Newell has entered upon his third year, and it opens even more prosperously than the preceding. The church is in better condition financially than ever it was. There are no services at the Congregationalist Church. A new mill, built by Mr. Peel, is a great help to our church,

since the owner, superintendent, and most of the help attend. The pews are all rented. Bro. Newell has issued a model card church directory. It contains valuable pastoral hints. By the way, Bro. Newell has an article in the Christian Advocate of May 24 on "The Church versus Rum," which is a very readable essay.

Putnam.—Rev. S. F. Harriman is pushing the work vigorously in this charge. Already results indicate an increased interest.

Danversville.—The preachers' meeting will be held here, June 18-20. An interesting programme has been arranged.

Greenville and Versailles.—Rev. G. H. Lamson has a laborious field, but he is hard at work. The church at Greenville has been newly painted and otherwise made attractive. The preaching service in G. is now held in the morning, and the congregation has decidedly increased.

Highland Park.—Robert N. Stanley, esq., son of our esteemed brother, Rev. E. S. Stanley, is actively engaged in the prohibition movement; he is one of the executive committee of Hartford County for the "third party."

KARL.

## MAINE CONFERENCE.

Quite a sprinkling of Maine Methodist ministers are attending the General Conference. It is pleasant to learn, in mingling with the members of the General Conference, what a high and honorable place our late delegate, Dr. Clark, had won for himself in the respect and affection of the leading ministers and laymen of our church. Among the laymen a purse was made up to pay the expenses in New York incurred by Bro. Clark's death.

Bro. John Cobb reached his 80th year some time in April, 1888, and friends propose to celebrate the event the 26th of June at his residence in Gorham. All friends are invited to participate in the delightful event.

L.

## EAST MAINE CONFERENCE.

Houlton District.

At the recent session of the East Maine Conference, held at Rockland, Rev. E. S. Walker was ordained to the office of deacon, and returned to his charge at Forest City, Lambert Lake and Vancleave. At Lambert Lake, on May 20, he administered the ordinance of baptism for the first time. Nine adult candidates received the holy rite—five by immersion and four by sprinkling. A large assemblage gathered to witness the ceremony. At the afternoon service twelve members were received into the church—eight from probation, one by letter, and three on probation. In his address to the new members, as in his sermon, the good brother was at his best, and set forth the Word with power. The services were conducted by Bro. H. C. Longfellow, one of the stewards of the church. A large number joined in the social exercises, and some expressed for the first time their desire to lead a religious life. Though no special services are being held, the church is active, and conversions are not infrequent. Bro. Walker has commenced a series of meetings at Forest City, and a good interest is reported.

S.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE.

The New Hampshire Conference has a large representation at the General Conference. Some have been here and gone, and we hear of others who are yet to come. The gathering is a great one, and as we sat in the gallery and listened and enjoyed the work, we inwardly expressed a wish that every pastor and his wife might be permitted to attend.

Rev. G. W. Norris has been compelled to return home by reason of sickness, and Rev. D. J. Smith has taken his place.

It may be of interest to the New Hampshire readers of ZION'S HERALD to know that the New Hampshire delegation voted solid for the admission of the women delegates. They have made no speeches in open Conference, but have been constantly in their places, and also hard at work on the committees.

Rev. Wm. McNally, who has joined the Primitive Methodist Church, has been sent to Girardville, Pa.

The name of Rev. A. R. Lunt, one of the worthy brethren of the Conference, was omitted in the report of the Conference in the HERALD. He was continued on the supernumerary list. The correspondent has discovered two or three errors in his notes since they were published.

We wonder how the new rule allowing pastors to stay five years will affect the N. H. Conference. It is to be hoped that both people and preachers will learn that now we have the most stable ministry of any church in the world, and that if the pastors shall remain for five years, they will stay as long, or longer, than the average pastor of any of the churches of the land. Why may it not be so? If the churches will make up their minds to stand by pastors for the full term of service, and if pastors will conduct themselves properly in the discharge of their duties, there is no reason why they may not. There need be no alarm because of the change.

Rev. Fred H. Morgan is supplying at Seabrook, and the year opens encouragingly.

Rev. D. E. Vernon, of Ohio, is to take charge of the M. E. Church at East Haverhill. Rev. J. R. Bartlett, of Concord, has supplied since Conference.

Bishop Foster for good reasons has released Bro. J. M. Bean from going to his appointment at East Haverhill. He will remain in Kingston for the present, and supply in some of the adjoining towns.

At St. Albans the parsonage has been brightened by fresh paint and paper. A barn, also, which has long been needed, is to be built at once.

It is with pain that we chronicle the death of Rev. Elisha Folsom, which occurred at Burlington, May 10. He died most triumphantly. When told that he could not live, he at once said, "Let us pray that my death may be sanctified to the inmates of this house."

Our church at South Roydon did itself great credit in the reception which it gave to its new pastor, Rev. W. M. Gillis. Speeches were made on the occasion by Bro. G. Ward, who gave an address of welcome in behalf of the church, by Rev. Mr. Ramage, who gave a kindly greeting in behalf of himself and Congregational Church of which he is the respected pastor, and by a gentleman of the legal profession, who gave a kindly welcome for the outside community. Bro. Gillis replied in fitting terms to these pleasant greetings, to which were added other apt and cheery words by Rev. E. W. Culver, presiding elder of St. Albans District, who was on a brief visit to friends at the time. The money having been previously raised to pay a mortgage against the parsonage, one of the interesting features of the above occasion was the burning of the said mortgage note in presence of the company assembled. More destructive fires than this have occurred within the last pastoral term to the people of this community. In the years to come it is hoped that the greatest disasters which shall befall them may be the burning of all documents representing a claim against the property of any of them.

cellent opening to his pastorate at Amesbury. The Amesbury Daily of the 21st inst. contains an abstract of an excellent sermon preached by him the Sabbath before.

TO THE PASTORS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE.

DEAR BRETHREN: Allow me to remind you of the vote of our recent Conference, fixing June as the time for taking the Church Extension collection, and also that each preacher was to forward the amount of his collection immediately to the Parent Board at Philadelphia. This was done at the suggestion of Dr. Spencer, as the amount standing to the credit of the Conference will materially aid us in securing a donation to our church enterprise in this city. I hope you will neither forget nor neglect this collection.

S. HOLMAN.

VERMONT CONFERENCE.

Springfield District.

Not for many years, it is believed, has as much difficulty and discomfort been experienced by the pastors and their families in changing their local habits, as the present season. The Conference was two weeks earlier than usual, and the season was about that much backward. Several of the preachers are as yet barely settled in their new homes. At this writing (May 23) two of them are at their old fields after their teams which they had to leave behind them, because of the all but impassable roads of two or three weeks since. How little some of our people know what it costs to maintain our itinerancy.

The Ludlow Academy has just inaugurated a new order of things. For the first time in its history its principal and graduating class arranged for the preaching of a baccalaureate sermon. The service was held on a recent Sunday at the M. E. Church, Pastor Reynolds having been chosen to preach. A fine congregation assembled on the occasion. Seats were reserved for the trustees and other officials. The preacher chose for his text 1 Tim. 4:14, first clause, and for his theme, "Development of Life after the Divine Pattern." The new year is opening quite auspiciously at Ludlow.

Rev. R. L. Bruce, of Springfield, was called home by telegraph from New York, whither he had gone to look in upon the General Conference for a few days, to attend the funeral of Rev. Pinckney Frost, for many years a superannuated member of our Conference. Bro. Frost would have been eighty years old next October had he lived till that time. He was one of the original seventy-eight members of the Vermont Conference when it was organized in 1844, but for thirty-six years had been on the supernumerary or superannuated list. Rev. P. M. Frost of the New Hampshire Conference, at present pastor of the M. E. Church at Littleton, is a son, and Mrs. Rev. A. M. Wheeler, of Barre, Vt., is a daughter of the deceased. A fuller notice will doubtless be forthcoming at an early day.

Rev. A. J. Hough was recently called to St. Johnsbury to attend the funeral of the Hon. Ira Brainard, who had for fifty years been a worthy member of our church, respected and beloved by his brethren, and who had for the same length of time been a regular subscriber for, and interested reader of, ZION'S HERALD.

Our church at South Roydon did itself great credit in the reception which it gave to its new pastor, Rev. W. M. Gillis. Speeches were made on the occasion by Bro. G. Ward, who gave an address of welcome in behalf of the church, by Rev. Mr. Ramage, who gave a kindly greeting in behalf of himself and Congregational Church of which he is the respected pastor, and by a gentleman of the legal profession, who gave a kindly welcome for the outside community. Bro. Gillis replied in fitting terms to these pleasant greetings, to which were added other apt and cheery words by Rev. E. W. Culver, presiding elder of St. Albans District, who was on a brief visit to friends at the time. The money having been previously raised to pay a mortgage against the parsonage, one of the interesting features of the above occasion was the burning of the said mortgage note in presence of the company assembled. More destructive fires than this have occurred within the last pastoral term to the people of this community. In the years to come it is hoped that the greatest disasters which shall befall them may be the burning of all documents representing a claim against the property of any of them.

St. Albans District.

The Conference year on this district is opening well. A few of the brethren could not move at once, owing to the bad condition of the roads, but were able to be in their various places and perform the work assigned them.

Bro. George Story was unable to preach the first two Sabbaths because of acute sickness. He is so far recovered that ere this reaches the press, he doubtless will have looked in upon the General Conference.

Our genial presiding elder is greatly missed. He will be sure of a cordial welcome from both pastors and people as soon as released from his honored duties.

We learn that at Swanton the ladies are furnishing one or more carpets for the parsonage, and that an aqueduct has also been provided.

At St. Albans the parsonage has been brightened by fresh paint and paper. A barn, also, which has long been needed, is to be built at once.

It is with pain that we chronicle the death of Rev. Elisha Folsom, which occurred at Burlington, May 10. He died most triumphantly. When told that he could not live, he at once said, "Let us pray that my death may be sanctified to the inmates of this house."

The funeral occurred at St. Johnsbury, Sunday, May 13. Rev. E. W. Culver, presiding elder of the St. Albans District, addressed the large congregation present from the last clause of Romans 8:17. Bros. Cushing, Farrar and H. F. Reynolds assisted in the service.

EDUCATIONAL ITEMS.

—Oberlin College has recently come into possession of about \$113,000 from donations.

—In the training-school of the American Board at Koto, Japan, there are now 550 students, 64 of whom are in the theological department.

—The will of P. Pemberton Norris, admitted to probate at Philadelphia, bequeaths his law library, valued at \$150,000, to the University of Pennsylvania.

—Eight young ladies are preparing themselves for missionary work in Albert Lea College, Minnesota, and three others are waiting for pecuniary help to enable them to do the same.

—Queen Margaret College, Glasgow, is the only woman's college in Scotland. The college buildings, which cost \$60,000, were purchased by Mrs. Elder, widow of the well-known Clyde shipbuilder, but will not be absolutely conveyed to the trustees of the college till the endowment fund reaches \$100,000.

—By the will of the late William Bittenger, of Abbotstown, the Pennsylvania College (Lutheran), Gettysburg, becomes the recipient of \$17,000 and a farm near Mechanstown, for which the testator paid \$27,000. The money goes to endow the chair of the president.

—Calvin Whitney, esq., of Norwalk, Ohio, has donated to the Ohio Wesleyan University land in Toledo, valued at \$15,000, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to building a new Music and Art Hall for that institution.

—Pres. Edward Thomson writes: "Never was there a better chance to earn a living, and at the same time go to college, than is offered by Mr. Bartley, of Bartley, Neb., founder of the Malleu University. To each student, male or female, attending the institution the coming term he gives, rent free, ten acres of old ground, or ten acres of new ground, for two years, or pasture for eight cows during the present season. All the milk can be sold to the Bartley cheese factory. The land is adjoining the town or within the incorporation. Families locating in Bartley can avail themselves of this offer in proportion to the number of students they furnish."

The house of Messrs. C. A. Smith & Co., 18 and 20 School Street, continues to offer their customers the most attractive assortment of woolsens to be found in this city. They keep the very best fabrics imported, and all gentlemen who desire good cloths made in the most thorough manner, will find it to their interest to make them a call.

COMFORT BOOTS AND SHOES, for ladies and gentlemen, at MCKEY'S, 469 Washington Street.

SCIENTIFIC SKILL IN PIANO MAKING.—The New York Tribune says: "The popularity of the instruments made by C. C. Briggs & Co., No. 5 Appleton Street, Boston, is an illustration of the great progress made within the past twenty-five years in piano-forte building. Both in form and tone this change is so apparent, that American manufacturers can safely claim the honor of leading the world, and the constant application of scientific principles to construction by Messrs. Briggs & Co. has placed that firm in the front rank of our manufacturers and elicited for their instruments the praise of many competent judges."

GENTLEMEN'S BOOTS AND SHOES, hand-sewed, prices very low, at MCKEY'S, 469 Washington Street.

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Priceworthy Ware. New Decorations. For Seashore and Mountain Cottages. Dinner Sets of 112 pieces, genuine Josiah Wedgwood & Sons, at \$19.00.

Dinner Sets of 142 pieces, genuine Copeland, at \$25.00.

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We are now landing from steamship "Roman," from Liverpool, 70 crates, and by steamship "De Ryter," from Antwerp, 82 packages, including new designs in outfit for Families, Clubs and Yachts.

We have also a superb display of China Course Sets; Fish, Entree, Game and Dessert. BEDROOM SETS in great variety; new decorations; ten pieces, from \$2.50 to \$40.00 per set.

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